



WHOSE SIDE...
...ARE YOU ON?

THE MARVEL UNIVERSE IS CHANGING. AFTER THE RASH ACTIONS OF FOUR YOUNG HEROES CAUSE THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CITY OF STAMFORD, CONNECTICUT, THE PUBLIC CALLS FOR REFORM IN THE WAY SUPER HEROES CONDUCT THEIR AFFAIRS. A SUPERHUMAN REGISTRATION ACT IS PROPOSED, WHICH WOULD REQUIRE ALL THOSE POSSESSING PARANORMAL ABILITIES TO REGISTER WITH THE GOVERNMENT. REACTION AMONG THE SUPER HEROES IS SPLIT DOWN THE MIDDLE, WITH AN AWOL CAPTAIN AMERICA ON ONE SIDE AND A PRO-REGISTRATION IRON MAN ON THE OTHER. CIVIL WAR SEEMS INEVITABLE...



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CIVIL WAR

A MARVEL COMICS® EVENT IN SEVEN PARTS

CIVIL WAR

Hoping to boost their ratings, four New Warriors—young super heroes and reality television stars—attempt to apprehend a quartet of villains holed up in Stamford, Connecticut. When confronted, the explosive Nitro employs his self-detonation ability, blowing the heroes and a large chunk of Stamford into oblivion. The entire incident is caught on tape.

Casualties number in the hundreds.



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In response to this tragedy, public sentiment is turning against super heroes. Johnny Storm, the Human Torch, is attacked outside a nightclub and beaten into a coma. Advocate Miriam Sharpe, who lost her son in the Stamford Disaster, calls for reform in the way super heroes conduct their affairs. On Capitol Hill, a Superhuman Registration Act is debated which would require all those possessing paranormal abilities to register with the government, divulging their true identities to the authorities and submitting to training and sanctioning in the manner of federal agents.

Some heroes, such as Iron Man, see this as a natural evolution of the role of superhumans in society, and a reasonable request. Others, embodied by Captain America, take umbrage at this assault on their civil liberties.



When Captain America is called upon to hunt down his fellow heroes who are in defiance of the Registration Act, he chooses to go AWOL, becoming a public enemy in the process.

In a closed-door meeting with the President and his Cabinet, Iron Man, Mr. Fantastic and Yellowjacket vow to bring Cap to ground.



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**CAPTAIN
AMERICA GOES
UNDERGROUND:**

LUNATIC
BROKE MY DAMN
NOSE.

I THOUGHT
YOU IDIOTS WERE
SUPPOSED TO BE
HUNTING HIM
DOWN OR
SOMETHING.



MORE BAD
GUYS, UNIT
FIVE?

TWO UP HERE, AND THE BOYS
DOWNSTAIRS SAY THEY'VE GOT
THE TRAPSTER CHAINED TO
A SINK IN THE MEN'S
ROOM.

HOW MANY DOES THE VULTURE
AND THE GRIM REAPER TAKE HIM
UP TO, COMMANDER HILL? IS THAT
EIGHT OF THESE FREAKS,
OR NINE?

**S.H.I.E.L.D. HELICARRIER,
SIX MILES ABOVE NEW
YORK CITY:**

FIFTEEN, SERGEANT.
FIFTEEN SUPER-CRIMINALS
INSIDE SEVENTY-TWO
HOURS.

BUT THE
NUMBERS DON'T ADD
UP. THERE'S JUST NO
WAY CAPTAIN AMERICA
COULD'VE TAKEN DOWN ALL
THESE GUYS AT ONCE.
IT'S PHYSICALLY
IMPOSSIBLE.

MEANING?

OUR NIGHTMARE
SCENARIO, UNIT
FIVE.

I DON'T
THINK HE'S ON
HIS OWN
ANYMORE.

New York Times

**REGISTRATION ACT
PASSED BY CONGRESS**

Small text columns below the headline.

DAILY BUGLE

**CAPTAIN AMERICA
GOES INTO HIDING**

Small text columns below the headline.

The Boston Globe

**PRESIDENT PROMISES
SWIFT ACTION**

Small image of Captain America in his suit.

The Washington Post

**TONY STARK NOW
BACKING SUPER HERO
REFORM**

Small image of Tony Stark.

OBVIOUSLY, I'M DISAPPOINTED CAPTAIN AMERICA'S TAKING A STAND LIKE THIS, BUT I COULDN'T BE HAPPIER ABOUT IRON MAN COMING ON BOARD.

STILL, THERE'S SEVEN DAYS BEFORE THE ACT BECOMES LAW, SO THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME FOR CAP TO SEE SENSE.

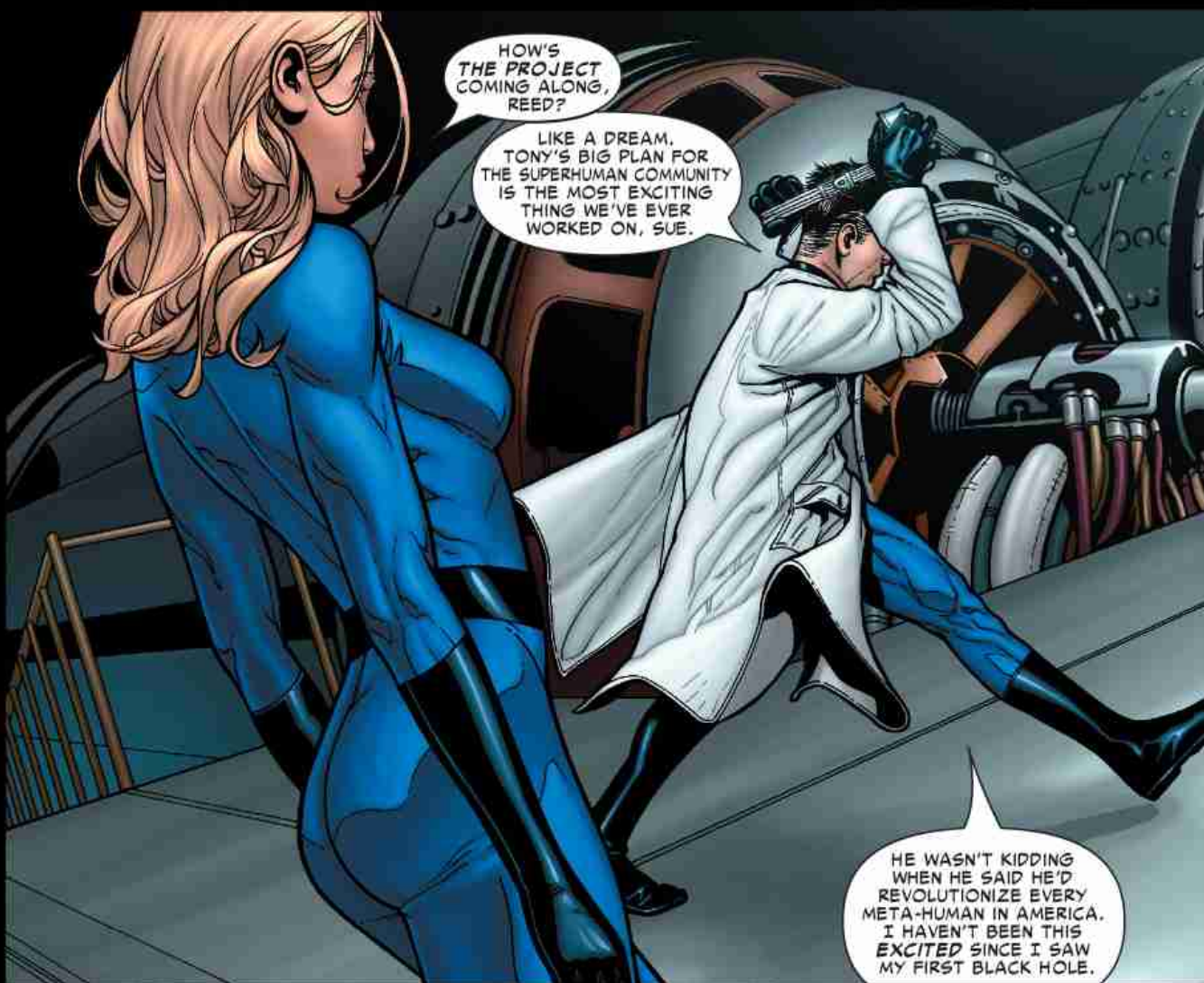
NEW YORK CITY:

TAKE IT EASY, FOLKS.
THE DOOMBOT'S DOWN.

A close-up of a smiling woman on the left. In the center, a man in a suit and tie is shouting with his mouth wide open. To his right, a man with a beard and goggles is also shouting. Other people are visible in the background, some with their arms raised in celebration.



THE BAXTER BUILDING,
HOME OF THE FANTASTIC
FOUR:



HOW'S
THE PROJECT
COMING ALONG,
REED?

LIKE A DREAM.
TONY'S BIG PLAN FOR
THE SUPERHUMAN COMMUNITY
IS THE MOST EXCITING
THING WE'VE EVER
WORKED ON, SUE.

HE WASN'T KIDDING
WHEN HE SAID HE'D
REVOLUTIONIZE EVERY
META-HUMAN IN AMERICA.
I HAVEN'T BEEN THIS
EXCITED SINCE I SAW
MY FIRST BLACK HOLE.



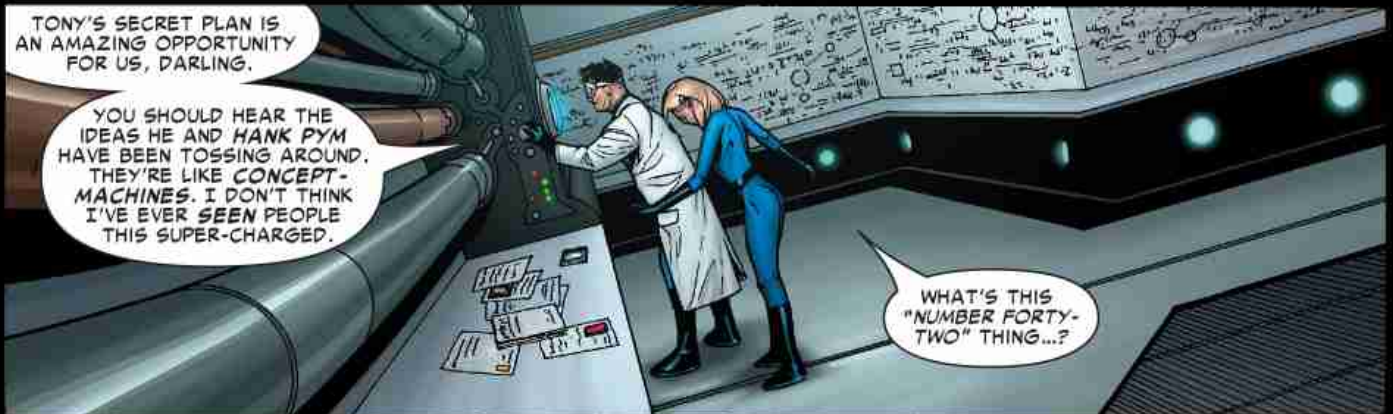
YEAH, WELL. MAYBE I'D BE
EXCITED TOO IF HIS GENIUS
PLAN DIDN'T MEAN JAIL FOR
HALF OUR CHRISTMAS
CARD LIST.

AGREED. BUT THEY DON'T LEAVE
US ANY CHOICE IF THEY REFUSE TO
REGISTER, HONEY. JUST TAKE A
LOOK AT MY PROJECTIONS IF
YOU NEED TO SEE THE SOCIAL
DANGERS THEY'RE
CREATING.



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? THIS IS GOBBLEDYGOOK.

NO, IT'S THE EXPONENTIAL CURVE THE NUMBER OF SUPER-BEINGS IS FOLLOWING AND THE APOCALYPSE WE'RE FACING IF UNLICENSED ACTIVITY ISN'T BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL.



TONY'S SECRET PLAN IS AN AMAZING OPPORTUNITY FOR US, DARLING.

YOU SHOULD HEAR THE IDEAS HE AND HANK PYM HAVE BEEN TOSSING AROUND. THEY'RE LIKE CONCEPT-MACHINES. I DON'T THINK I'VE EVER SEEN PEOPLE THIS SUPER-CHARGED.

WHAT'S THIS "NUMBER FORTY-TWO" THING...?



I'M SORRY, SUSAN, BUT I'M AFRAID THAT'S CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.



OH.

RIGHT.

WELL, I GUESS IT'S TIME I WAS MAKING TRACKS FOR THE HOSPITAL ANYWAY, HUH?



MM.

GIVE JOHNNY ALL MY LOVE.

THE DAILY BUGLE:

JONAH, WE JUST GOT WORD ABOUT A HUGE PRESS CONFERENCE TONY STARK IS HOLDING TOMORROW MORNING. URICH IS IN, BUT PARKER'S OUT OF TOWN. WHO DO YOU WANT TO SEND IN HIS PLACE?

JONAH?

SORRY, ROBBIE. MILES AWAY.

JUST THINKING ABOUT HOW, AT MIDNIGHT TONIGHT, EVERYTHING THIS NEWSPAPER HAS EVER CAMPAIGNED FOR OFFICIALLY BECOMES LAW.

NO MORE MASKS AND NO MORE EXCUSES ABOUT CREEPY SECRET IDENTITIES. THESE CLOWNS FINALLY WORK FOR S.H.I.E.L.D. OR THEY THROW THEIR BUTTS IN JAIL.

YOU REALLY THINK THE SUPER HEROES ARE ALL GOING TO SIGN UP?



NO.
JUST THE SMART ONES.

TONY STARK'S PENTHOUSE:

TWENTY MINUTES TO GO, TONY.
WORD FROM S.H.I.E.L.D. IS THAT WE'RE
LOOKING AT THIRTY-EIGHT SIGNATURES
ALREADY. THAT'S PRETTY MUCH WHAT
YOU ESTIMATED, RIGHT?

PRETTY MUCH,
HAPPY. ANY WORD
FROM CAP?



MIDNIGHT:

**REGISTRATION
ACT BECOMES
LAW**

SONY

REGISTRATION ACT BECOMES LAW REGISTRATION



24 HOURS LATER:







YOU SURE THAT KID'S
INDESTRUCTIBLE?

HE'LL BE FINE.
IT'S THE OFFICE
BLOCK I'M WORRIED
ABOUT, DUDE. COMMAND
SAID *PROPERTY*
DAMAGE GOTTA BE
KEPT TO A MINIMUM
OR IT'S HEAD-
ROLLING TIME.

YOU SEE THE TROUBLE YOU
CAUSED? YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENS
WHEN YOU TRY TO BE SOME BIG
BAD VIGILANTE LIKE YOUR BUDDY,
CAPTAIN AMERICA?

ELSEWHERE:

S.H.I.E.L.D. UNIT
JUST PICKED UP
THE YOUNG
AVENGERS ON
WEST 23RD. SHOULD
WE GET A POSSE
TOGETHER AND
INTERCEPT?

CAP AND THE FALCON
ARE ALREADY UNDERCOVER
ON THE SCENE, DAREDEVIL.
COCKY MISTER WILSON
EVEN TOLD ME TO GET
THE DAMN COFFEE
ON.



SEE, THIS IS WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT: THESE KIDS ARE WHAT--SIXTEEN YEARS OLD? SEVENTEEN, TOPS? AND THEY'RE OUT THERE IN THEIR PANTYHOSE LAUGHING IN OUR FACES.

IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE BANNING 'EM, MAN. NOBODY'S STOPPING 'EM DOING THEIR THING. HELL, THEY'RE EVEN PAYING THESE CLOWNS TO GO OFFICIAL NOW.



BUT THEY DON'T GET A BUZZ OUTTA BEIN' LEGIT. FREAKS ONLY GET OFF ON THE MASKS AND THAT "MYSTERY MAN" GARBAGE.



GONNA BE ONE COLD SHOWER WHEN THEY SEE THE NEW PEN THEY'RE BUILDING FOR THESE SUPER-CREEPS. YOU HEARD ABOUT THIS PLACE? THIS "NUMBER FORTY-TWO" THING THEY'RE CONSTRUCTIN'?

FRANK IN SUPPLIES SAID YOU'RE NOT EVEN ALLOWED TO LOOK AT THE BLUEPRINTS WITHOUT THESE WEIRD-ASS SPECIAL GOGGLES.

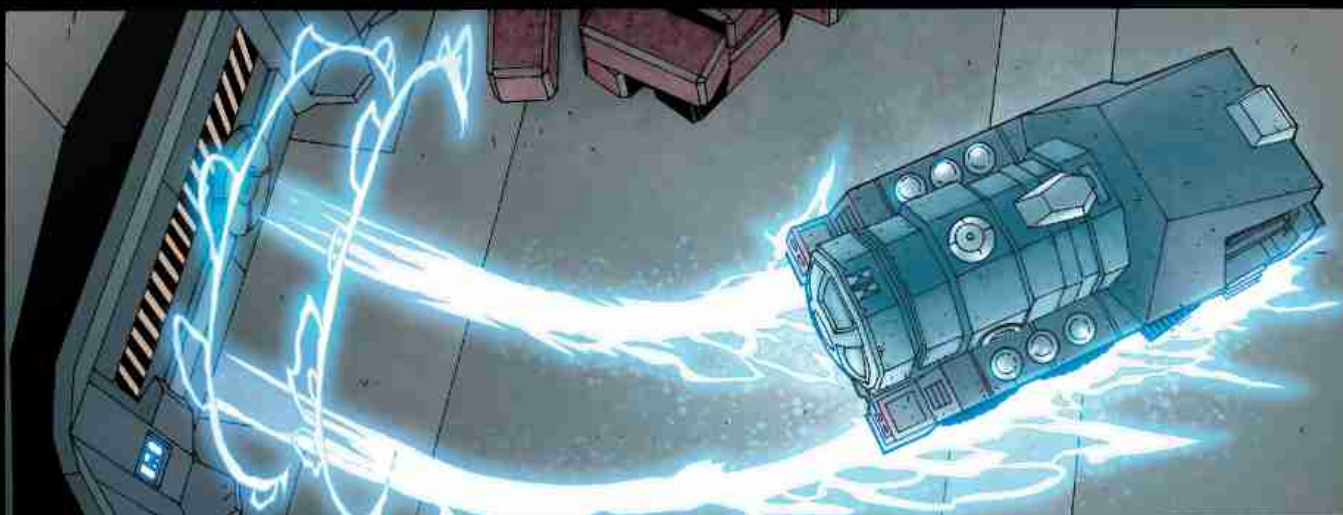
YOU KNOW SOMETHING, FELLA?



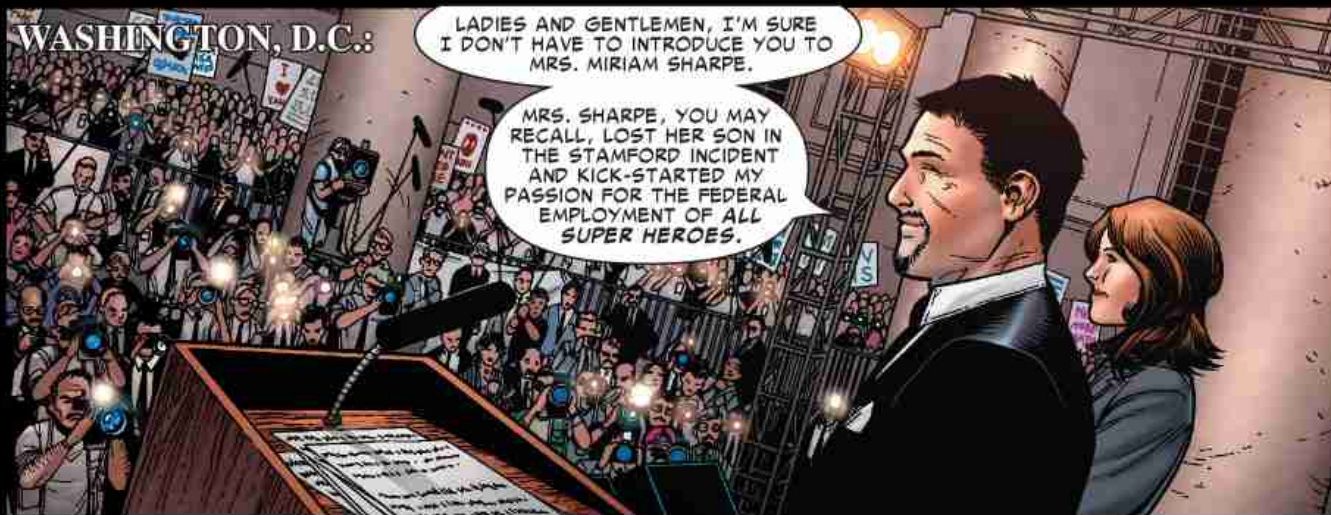
YOU TALK TOO MUCH!

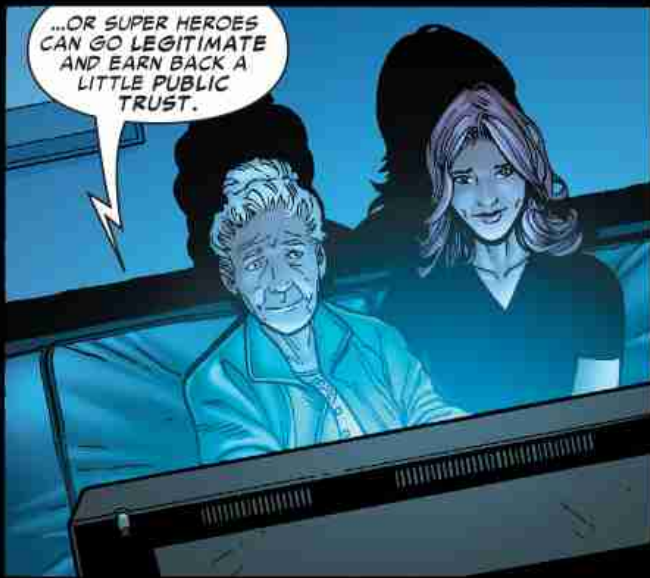
















ANY
QUESTIONS?



ZOMBIE